JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, as a part of its long term planning exercise, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has examined sites near Mauda in Nagpur district of Maharashtra for a 1000 MW power project based on water from Ghosikhurd Irrigation project presently under construction. Maharashtra Government has conveyed its in-principle consent for availability of land, and for water.

Electrification of Dalit Bastis in Gujarat

2888. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had asked the State Government of Gujarat to furnish the data relating to villages electrified, un-electrified and electrified Dalit bastis and hamlets in the State;

(b) if so, whether such data has been furnished by the State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps Government have taken for achieving 100 per cent village electrification in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government had asked all the State Governments including Gujarat to furnish the data relating to villages electrified, un-electrified, dalit bastis and hamlets in the States.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Gujarat Electricity Board have reported that as per the census of 1991 cent percent villages have been electrified. The details are as under:–

- Out of 18028 total villages as per 1991 census, 17940 villages have been reported to be electrified. Remaining un-electrified 88 villages are non-feasible for electrification.
- 25469 Scheduled Caste localities (dalit bastis) out of 25534 have been electrified. Balance 65 Scheduled Caste localities (dalit bastis) are not feasible for electrification.
- 10309 petaparas (hamlets) have been electrified in Gujarat as on 31.3.2003.

(d) In view of above question does not arise.

Private power projects

2889. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of private power projects existing at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of these projects sanctioned by Central Electricity Authority till date and by when these plants will start generating power in addition to (a) above;

(c) the manner by which the power produced by these private plants will be utilized; and

(d) the assistance provided by Government to these plants, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) A total of 52 private power projects are presently existing in the country. The State-wise break-up is Himachal Pradesh-2, Gujarat-9, Maharashtra-8, Goa-1, Andhra Pradesh-5, Kerala-3, Karnataka-6, Tamil Nadu-5, Jharkhand-1, West Bengal-9, Assam-2 and Andaman & Nicobar-1. These also include the power projects of private licensee companies which were in existence even prior to announcement of the policy in 1991 to encourage greater private sector participation in the power sector.

(b) Out of a total of 61 private power projects accorded techno-economic clearance (TEC) by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), 16 projects have so far been commissioned, which are included in the projects mentioned under reply to (a) above. Of the remaining 45 projects, 4 are no longer being pursued through private sector by the respective States. The commissioning of the balance 41 projects depends upon tying up of the required inputs/clearances (including financial closure) by the project developers.

(c) Power from the private power projects is generally fed into the State Grid for further distribution.

(d) Government of India (GoI) has been facilitating implementation of